58 Years of Teaching

It was more than 50 years ago that a young Chicago printer, a student of social science and economic philosophies, became uquainted with Henry George, 19th century economist and reform propagandist, author of "Progress and Poverty," who based his philosophy on "the natural right of every man to apply his labor to land" and a system of taxation on land values only.

The young printer, John Z. White, was so impressed with this teaching, and it wasn't long until he was associated in the work. He toured the country as a lecturer and debater on the land question and engaged in debate such noted speakers as Williams Jennings Bryan, Clarence Darrow and Louis F. Post, assistant secretary of labor during Wilson's administration.

Mr. White has just turned 89. He is still a vigorous man mentally, and just as staunch a believer in George's philosophy as he was in his youth. Mr. White recently spient time coaching a pair of young Chicago students in the art of debate. The students debated on the question, "Can a Lasting World Peace be Achieved Through the Philosophy of Henry George?" This debate was presented at the 104th anniversary celebration of George's birth.

Mr. White recalled that one of the outstanding events of his life was the first public lecture George delivered in Chicago.

The year was 1885 and the place was the old Central Music Hall at Randolph and State streets, where the Marshall Field store now stands.

"I was chairman of the meeting," White said, "and I was never so impressed in my life as when throngs of men and women crowded into the hall and cheered themselves hoarse as George spoke on the labor question."

Mr. White was an instructor at Chicago extension of the Henry George School of Social Science until his retirement a few years